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10/692,256

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EXAMINER

OUELLETTE, JONATHAN P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3629

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/692,256

Applicant(s)

SMITH ET AL.

Examiner

Jonathan Ouellette

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 July 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39, 41 and 42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39, 41, and 42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Claims 1-39, 41, and 42 remain pending in application 10/692,256.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. **Claims 1-39, 41, and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hardy et al. (US 2005/0044152 A1).**
4. As per **independent Claims 1 and 20**, Hardy discloses in a computing system (computer program product) that is in communication with a plurality of applications that are configured to utilize contact information to initiate communication with a contact (Abstract), a method for providing a contact management system for managing contacts and their corresponding contact information for use by the plurality of applications, the method comprising: creating a plurality of contacts having contact information that can be utilized by the plurality of applications (Fig.3, Para 0004-0008), such that the plurality of applications can utilize the contact information to initiate network communication with the plurality of

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contacts (abstract); storing the contacts in a centralized contact store that is accessible to each of the plurality of applications (Fig.5, Para 0024); providing a contact interface, the contact interface including a display window displaying to a user contact information corresponding to one or more of the plurality of contacts, the same display window in which contact information is displayed further being configured to simultaneously display one or more user-selectable links configured to launch one of the plurality of applications to initiate network communication with a contact (Fig.5, Para 0024, Para 0034); launching an application in response to user selection of one of the user-selectable links in the display window that also displays the contact information (Para 0024, Para 0034); providing the applications access to the contact and corresponding contact information through the contact interface or one or more other interfaces; and enabling the applications to retrieve the contact information from the contact store and utilize the contact information to initiate network communication with the contact (Fig.1, Para 0024, Para 0034).

5. As per Claims 2 and 21, Hardy discloses wherein the one or more other interfaces prevent the at least one of the applications from having direct access to the contacts and corresponding contact information in the contact store.
6. As per Claims 3 and 22, Hardy discloses wherein the one or more other interfaces further provide a security mechanism for preventing the at least one of the applications from accessing contacts and corresponding contact information that a corresponding user of the computing system has not authorized.
7. As per Claim 4, Hardy discloses wherein the corresponding user is a logged on user of the computing system.

8. As per Claims 5 and 23, Hardy discloses wherein enabling the at least one of the applications to utilize the contact includes enabling the at least one of the applications to update the contact information of the contact within the contact store.
9. As per Claim 6, Hardy discloses wherein the contact information is updated by syncing the contact information in the contact store with contact information provided by the at least one of the applications.
10. As per Claims 7 and 24, Hardy discloses wherein enabling the at least one of the applications to utilize the contact includes updating contact information stored by the at least one of the applications in an application store with the corresponding contact information from the contact store.
11. As per Claims 8 and 25, Hardy discloses wherein enabling the at least one of the applications to utilize the contact includes enabling the contact to be sent to another store of another computing system.
12. As per Claims 9 and 26, Hardy discloses wherein enabling the at least one of a plurality of applications to utilize the contact includes enabling the at least one of the heterogeneous application to modify the contact.
13. As per Claim 10, Hardy discloses wherein modifying the contact includes modifying an attribute associated with the contact.
14. As per Claims 11 and 27, Hardy discloses wherein enabling the at least one of the applications to utilize the contact includes enabling the at least one of the applications to create an association between the contact and at least one other contact.

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15. As per Claims 12 and 28, Hardy discloses wherein enabling the at least one of the applications to utilize the contact includes enabling the at least one of the applications to initiate a communication by using the contact information associated with the contact.
16. As per Claim 13, Hardy discloses wherein the communication includes at least one of an e-mail, a telephony session, an RTC session, an instant message, a facsimile, a telephone message, or a pager notification.
17. As per Claims 14 and 29, Hardy discloses wherein creating the contact includes merging contact information corresponding to a single person and that is obtained from a plurality of sources into a single contact.
18. As per Claims 15 and 30, Hardy discloses wherein the contact comprises a data structure having a plurality of fields that contain different contact information, and wherein the one or more applications are configured to utilize contact information from different fields of the contact data structure.
19. As per Claims 16 and 31, Hardy discloses wherein the at least one of the applications is hosted by the computing system.
20. As per Claims 17 and 32, Hardy discloses wherein creating the contact includes enabling the user to set constraints that control how the contact can at least one of be accessed and utilized by applications.
21. As per Claims 18 and 33, Hardy discloses wherein the one or more other interfaces includes an interface for enabling a user to select portions of the contact information that will be made accessible to the at least one of the applications.

22. As per Claim 19, Hardy discloses wherein the one or more interfaces include an interface for enabling a user to select the contact from a plurality of available contacts.
23. As per Claim 41, Hardy discloses filtering the plurality of contacts in the contact store to display a subset of contacts, wherein said plurality of contacts are filtered according to one or more criteria selected from a group consisting of: *name, phone number, address, keyword, online status, application capabilities, communication device capabilities, communication frequency, last selected contact, geographic location, emotional status, communication device status, and contact persona.*
24. As per new Claim 42, Hardy discloses wherein the display window lists a plurality of actions which can be taken to establish network communication with the one or more contacts, the plurality of actions being filtered based on the available contact information such that sufficient contact information exists to take each of the listed actions without requiring additional contact information be entered by the user (Para 0024, Para 0034). **Negative limitation – new matter – no support**
25. As per **independent Claims 34 and 37**, Hardy discloses in a computing system (computer program product) that includes a contact store storing at least one contact, the contact comprising contact information that can be utilized differently by heterogeneous applications that are in communication with the computing system (Fig.1, Fig.5, Para 0018-20), the heterogeneous applications having application contact directories that are maintained independently of the contact store and that defines the at least one contact (Fig.1), a method for providing a contact management system for managing contacts and their corresponding contact information for use by the heterogeneous applications (abstract), the method

comprising: creating one or more contacts having contact information that can be utilized differently by at least two heterogeneous applications, wherein a plurality of the heterogeneous application can utilize the contact information to initiate network communication with the plurality of contacts (Fig.5, Para 0024, Para 0034); storing the contacts in a centralized contact store that is accessible to each of the at least two heterogeneous applications (Fig.5, Para 0018-20); modifying contact information for at least one of the contacts in the contact store (updating/entering contact information); upon modifying the contact information, automatically updating corresponding contact information in at least one application-specific contact directory of at least one of the heterogeneous applications to correspond with the modified contact information in the contact store, and such that the at least one application is able to access the updated contact information from a corresponding application-specific contact directory and without having to request the updated contact information from the contact store (Figs.1-5, Para 0021-0025); providing a contact interface for displaying contact information to a user, the contact interface including a display window configured to display, to a user, contact information corresponding to one or more contacts, and the same display window being further configured to display, simultaneously with the contact information, one or more user-selectable links configured to launch at least one of the plurality of heterogeneous applications in response to user selection of a corresponding user-selected link displayed in the display window with the contact information (Fig.5, Para 0024, Para 0034); and enabling the plurality of heterogeneous application which can utilize the contact information to initiate network communication with the plurality of contacts to retrieve the updated contact

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information from a corresponding application contact directory without having to request the updated contact information from (Figs.1-5) the contact store in response to user selection and to utilize the updated contact information to initiate network communication with a contact using an application launched from the contact interface (Figs.1-5, Para 0024, Para 0034).

26. As per Claim 35 and 38, Hardy discloses wherein modifying the contact information includes modifying content of the contact information.
27. As per Claims 36 and 39, Hardy discloses wherein modifying the contact information is performed by a local application hosted by the computing system.

Response to Arguments

28. Applicant's arguments filed 7/13/2007, with respect to Claims 1-39, 41, and 42 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
29. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).
Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).
30. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Conclusion

31. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jonathan Ouellette whose telephone number is (571) 272-6807. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 8am - 5:00pm.
32. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned (571) 273-8300 for all official communications.
33. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Office of Initial Patent Examination whose telephone number is (703) 308-1202.

September 26, 2007

JONATHAN OUELLETTE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

